

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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NEWS RELEASE
May 19, 2010

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Springer Correctional Center Receives an A++ From the American Correctional Association

Springer New Mexico - The American Correctional Association (ACA) Audit Committee has completed its initial audit of the Springer Correctional Center (SCC) in Springer. The Springer Correctional Center passed the audit with a 100 percent compliance of all mandatory standards and a 100 percent compliance of non-mandatory standards.

The ACA Audit Committee conducted the standards compliance audit on May 17-19, 2010. The Springer Correctional Center was evaluated on 464 standards, covering all areas of prison operations including: fire safety, sanitation, medical, food service, programs and security. Upon completion of the audit, the auditors highly praised the staff for their dedication to fulfilling the facility's mission of providing a high quality of life to the inmates. The auditors complimented the prison's education, addictions and medical programs. Audit team Chairman Buddy Kent stated that he has been conducting ACA audits of correctional facilities for over 30 years and this was the first time he has ever awarded a score of 100 percent compliance to a state-run facility on its initial accreditation audit.

The ACA auditors were chairman, Buddy Kent from Florida, Catherine Thomas from Virginia and John Ruth from Ohio. The audit team will present its recommendations and report to the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections in Chicago, Illinois in August 2010. At this time, a final decision will be made to determine SCC's accreditation status and score. The accreditation panel, more often than not, follows the auditors' recommendation. Each accreditation is good for three years.

SCC has 220 inmates and 114 staff. The facility is a minimum-security prison, incarcerating inmates classified as Level I and II.

The Springer Correctional Center is the newest state-operated facility, which opened in January 2007.